Hot QCD Matter

Peter Jacobs

Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory/CERN

Lecture 1: Tools
Lecture 2: Initial conditions: partonic structure and global observables
Lecture 3: Collective flow and hydrodynamics
Lecture 4: Jets and other hard probes

My approach to these lectures

The field of hot QCD matter spans the boundaries of nuclear, particle and condensed matter physics, and string theory

The field is also relatively young, with many phenomena not yet understood on a fundamental level

Think about it more like Condensed Matter Physics than Particle Physics: the Lagrangian is known precisely (QED, QCD), but many interesting phenomena cannot be calculated from first principles

➔Extensive use of effective theories and modeling

This is an opportunity for new ideas and concepts, but also a barrier to the outsider to sort out what is really known and what is conjectured

I will make no attempt to be comprehensive

Rather, I will discuss a limited number of topics that are well-established experimentally and have a connection to well-founded theory

Outline: Lecture 1

Theory Tools

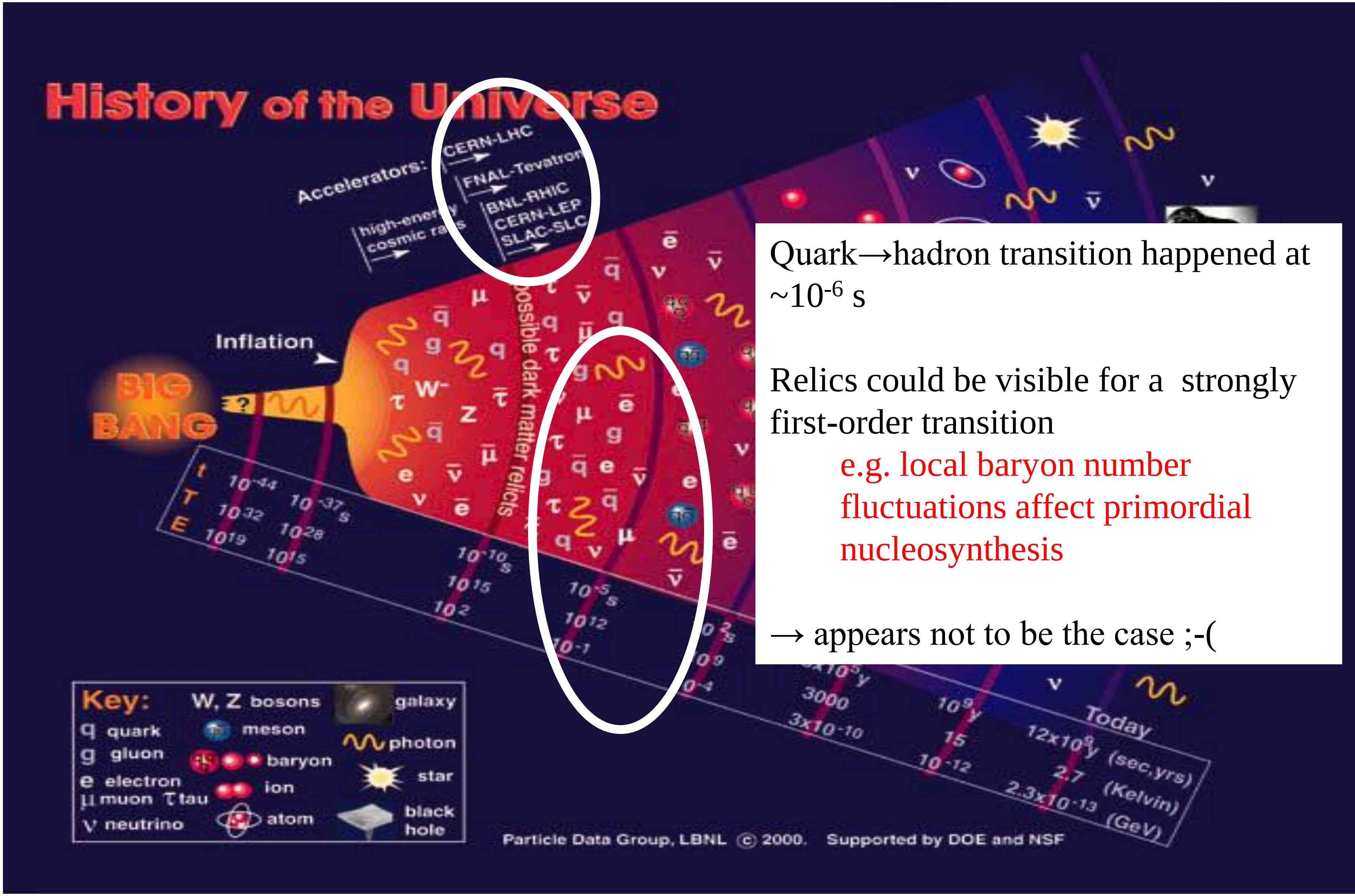
- Basics of QCD
- Finite Temperature QCD

Experimental Tools

- Colliders
- Detectors

Analysis Tools

- Relativistic Kinematics
- Characterization of nuclear collisions



Quark→hadron transition happened at ~10^{-6} s

Relics could be visible for a strongly first-order transition

e.g. local baryon number fluctuations affect primordial nucleosynthesis

→ appears not to be the case ;-(

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Quantum Chromo-dynamics: the field theory of the strong (nuclear) force

Same basic structure as QED (electromagnetism)....

rks

color $a = 1, \ldots, 3$

....except that gluons ("photons" of strong force) carry (color) charge...

Gluons

A^a_μ { color $a = 1, \ldots, 8$; spin $\epsilon^\pm_\mu$ }

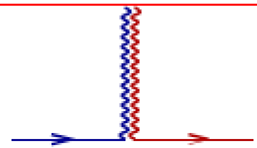
....so they interact among themselves, generating much more complex structures...

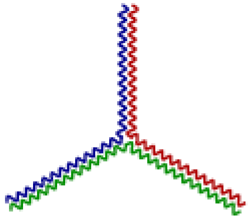
Dynamics: Generalized Maxwell (Yang-

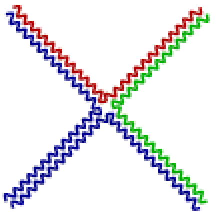
$$\mathcal{L} = \bar{q}_f (i\not{D} - m_f) q_f - \frac{1}{4} G^a_{\mu\nu} G^a_{\mu\nu}$$

$$G^a_{\mu\nu} = \partial_\mu A^a_\nu - \partial_\nu A^a_\mu + g f^{abc} A^b_\mu A^c_\nu$$

$$i\not{D} q = \gamma^\mu \left(i\partial_\mu + g A^a_\mu t^a \right) q$$

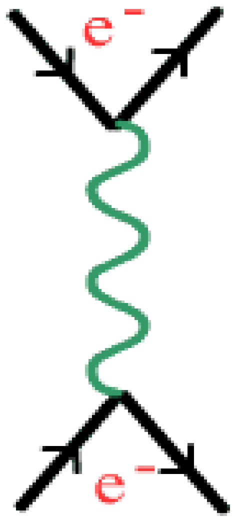






Field theory: "running" of the coupling

Consider the interaction of two elementary particles:



Q^2

Momentum transfer Q^2

small $Q^2 \Rightarrow$ large distance scales
large $Q^2 \Rightarrow$ small distance scales

Quantum mechanics:

Virtual pairs (loops) screen bare interaction

$\Rightarrow$ momentum-dependent interaction strength

Running of the coupling: QED vs QCD

$$a \ \text{o} \ \frac{g^2}{4p}$$

negative

QED:

$$\frac{1}{\alpha(Q^2)} \approx \frac{1}{\alpha(\mu^2)} - \frac{1}{3\pi}\log\left(\frac{|Q^2|}{\mu^2}\right)$$

Smaller |Q²| (larger distance) ⇒ weaker coupling

- similar to screening of charge in di-electric material

QCD:

$$\frac{1}{\alpha_S(Q^2)} \approx \frac{1}{\alpha_S(\mu^2)} + \frac{11N_{color} - 2n_{flavor}}{12\pi}\log\left(\frac{|Q^2|}{\mu^2}\right)$$

$=+(33-12)/12\pi$ = positive!

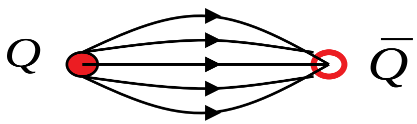
Smaller |Q²| (larger distance) ⇒ larger coupling

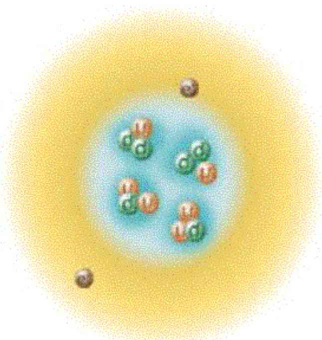
And that makes a huge difference!

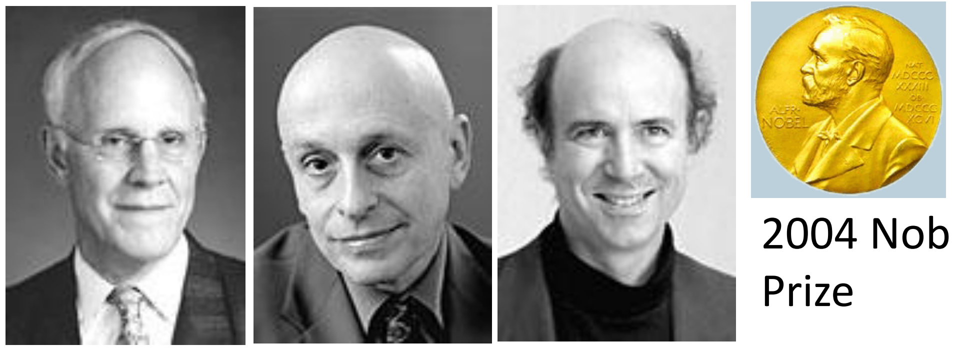
QCD: running of α_s

Asymptotic Freedom

Confinement

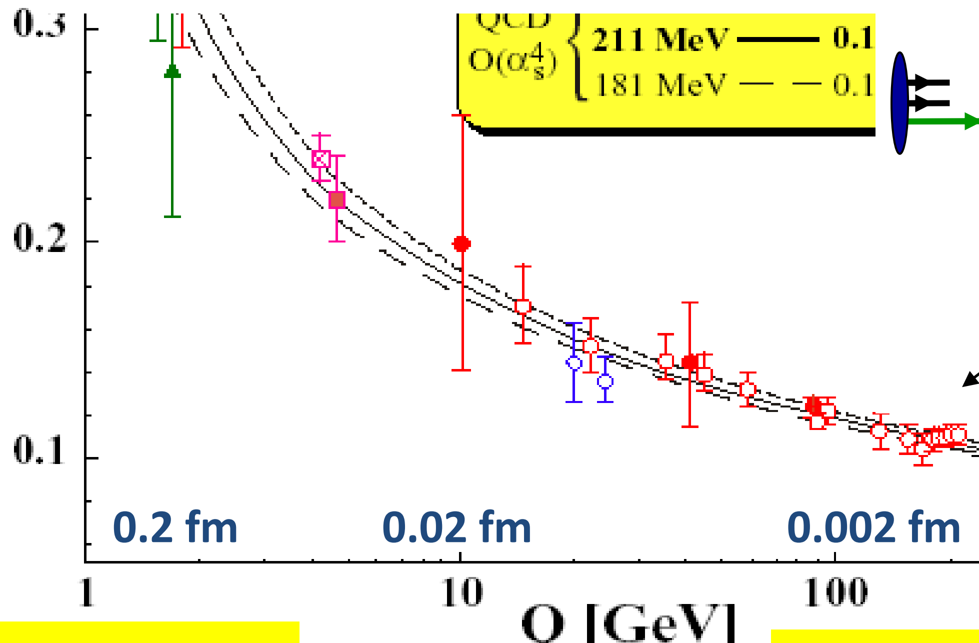


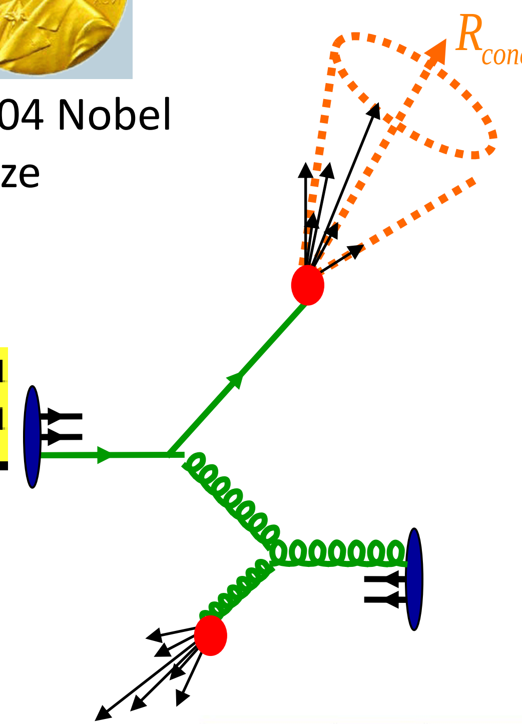


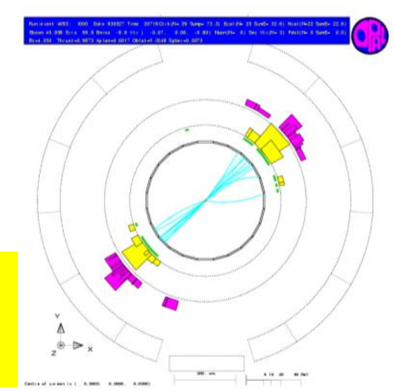


Gross Politzer Wilczek

2004 Nobel Prize





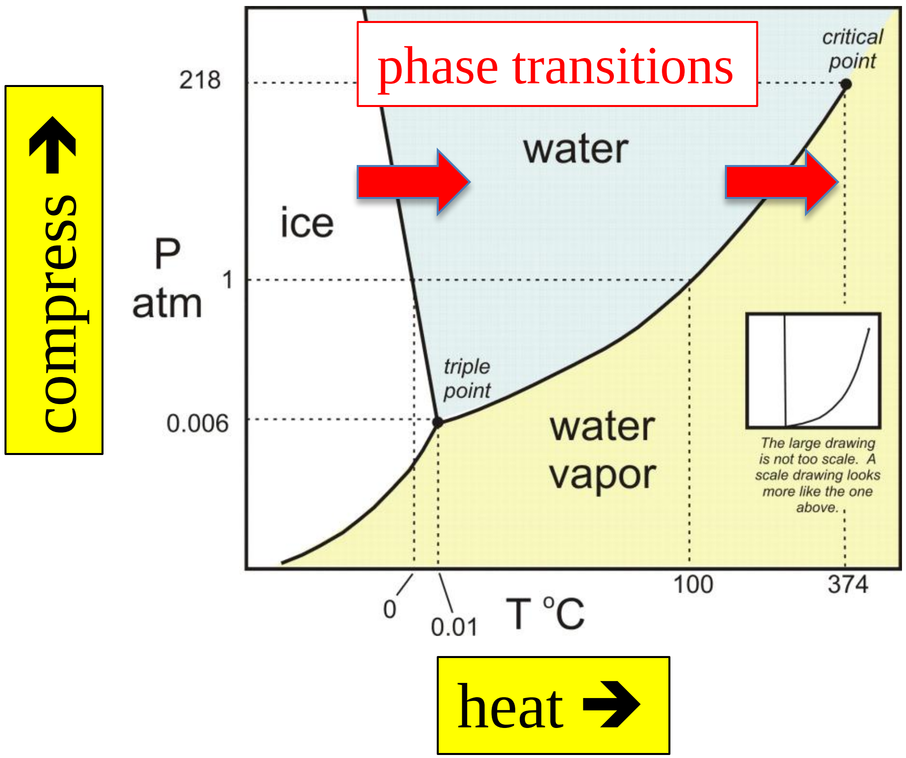


Low momentum

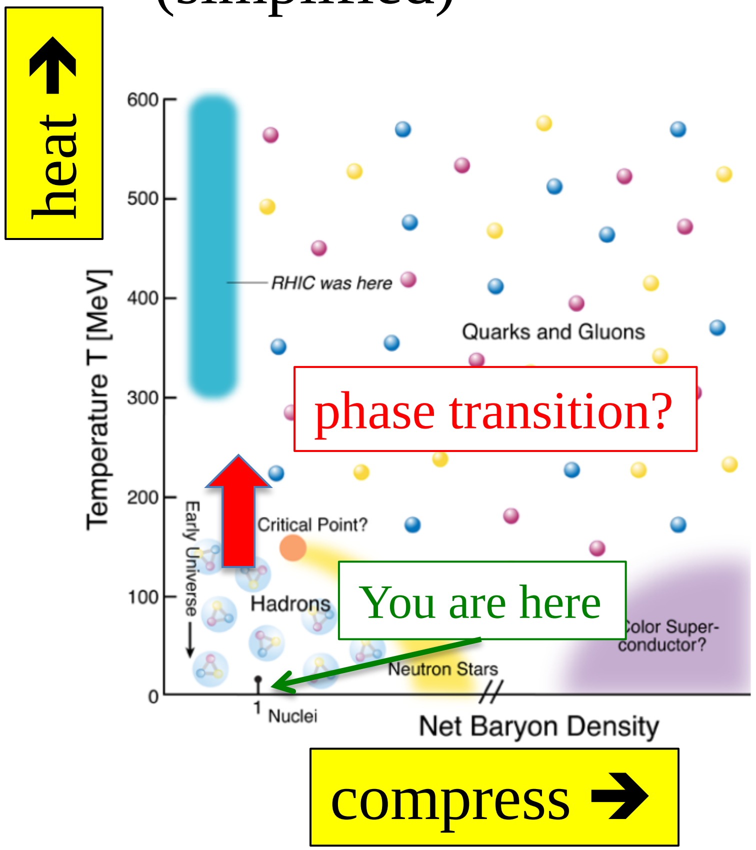
High momentum

Now let's think about "matter"

Phase diagram of water (simplified)



Phase diagram of QCD (simplified)



Quantitative QCD thermodynamics

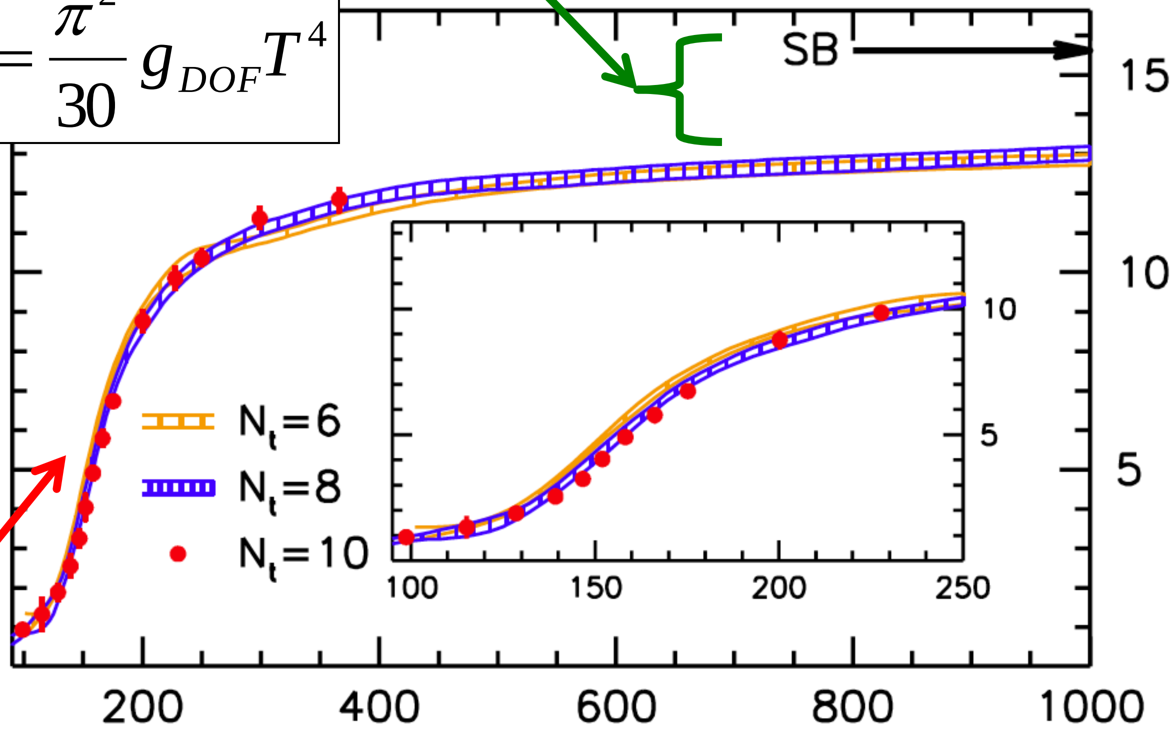
Finite temperature QCD calculated numerically on the lattice (μ_B=0)

Slow convergence to non-interacting Steffan-Boltzmann limit
What carries energy - complex bound states of q+g? "strongly-coupled" plasma?

Energy density

$$\varepsilon = \frac{\pi^2}{30} g_{DOF} T^4$$

$$\frac{\varepsilon}{T^4}$$



Temperature [MeV]

S. Borsanyi et al., JHEP 1011, 077 (2010)

Cross-over, not sharp phase transition
(like ionization of atomic plasma)

Exploration of hot QCD Matter: what are the questions? (partial list)

What is the nature of QCD Matter at finite temperature?

- What is its phase structure?
- What is its equation of state?
- What are its effective degrees of freedom?
  - Is it a (trivial) gas of non-interacting quarks and gluons, or a fluid of interacting quasi-particles?
- What are its symmetries?
- Is it correctly described by Lattice QCD or does it require new approaches, and why?

What are the dynamics of QCD matter at finite temperature?

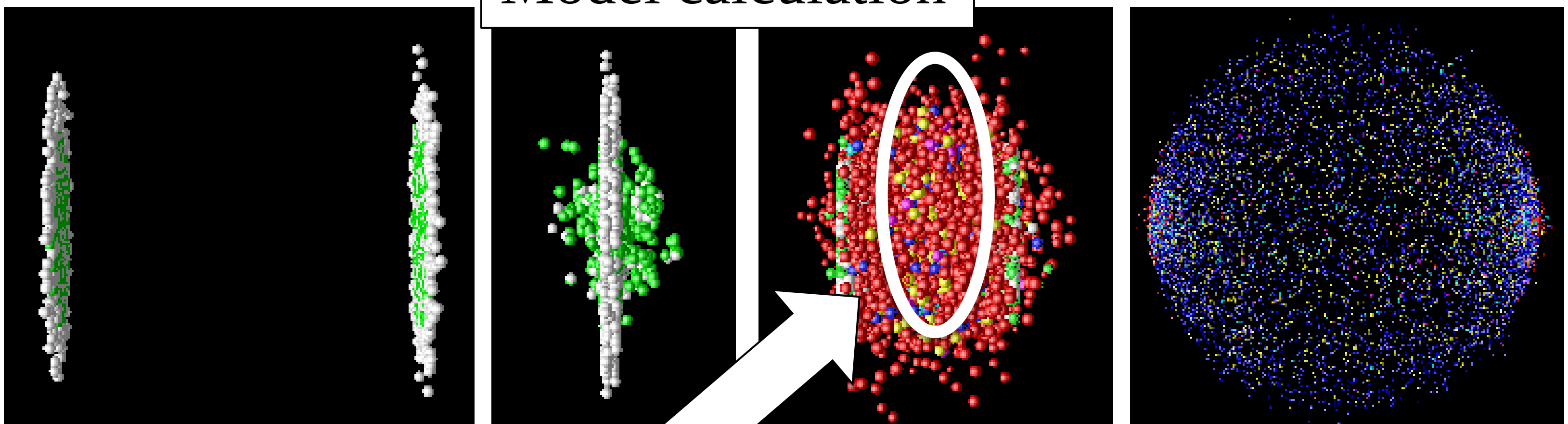
- What is the order of the (de-)confinement transition?
- How is chiral symmetry restored at high T, and how?
- Is there a QCD critical point?
- What are its transport properties?

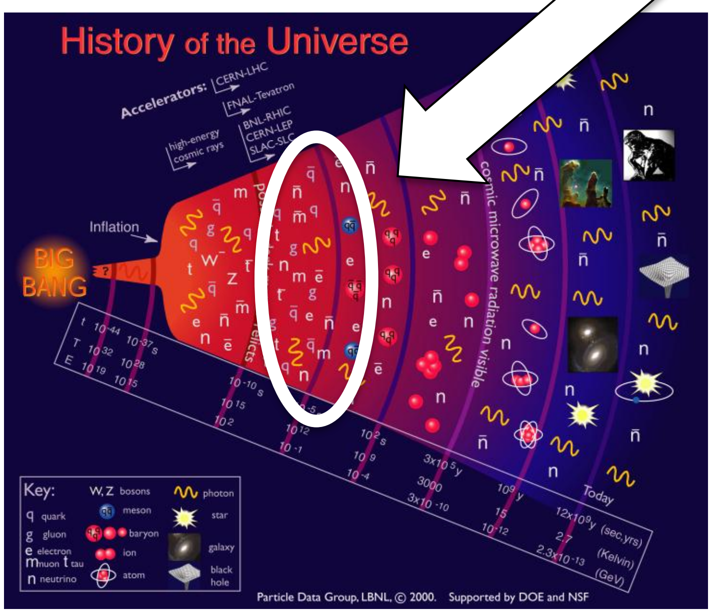
Can hot QCD matter be related to other physical systems?

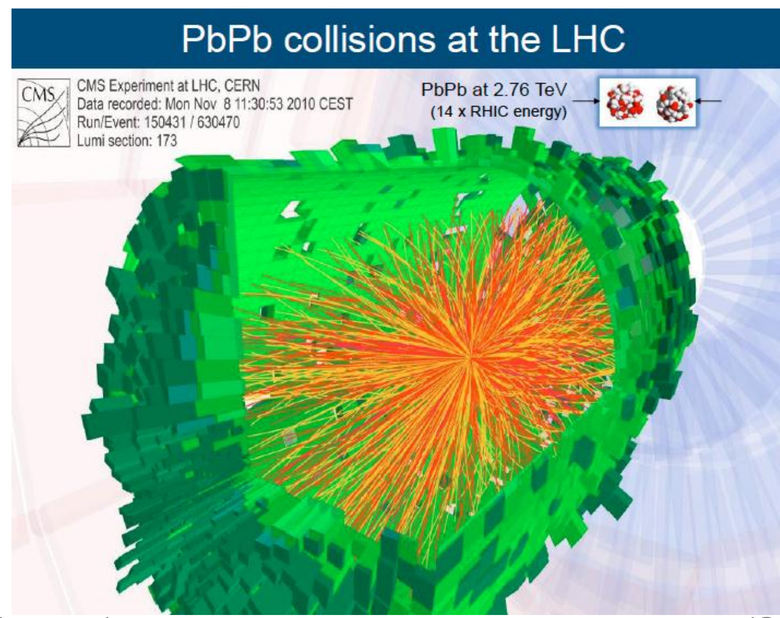
Can we study hot QCD matter experimentally?

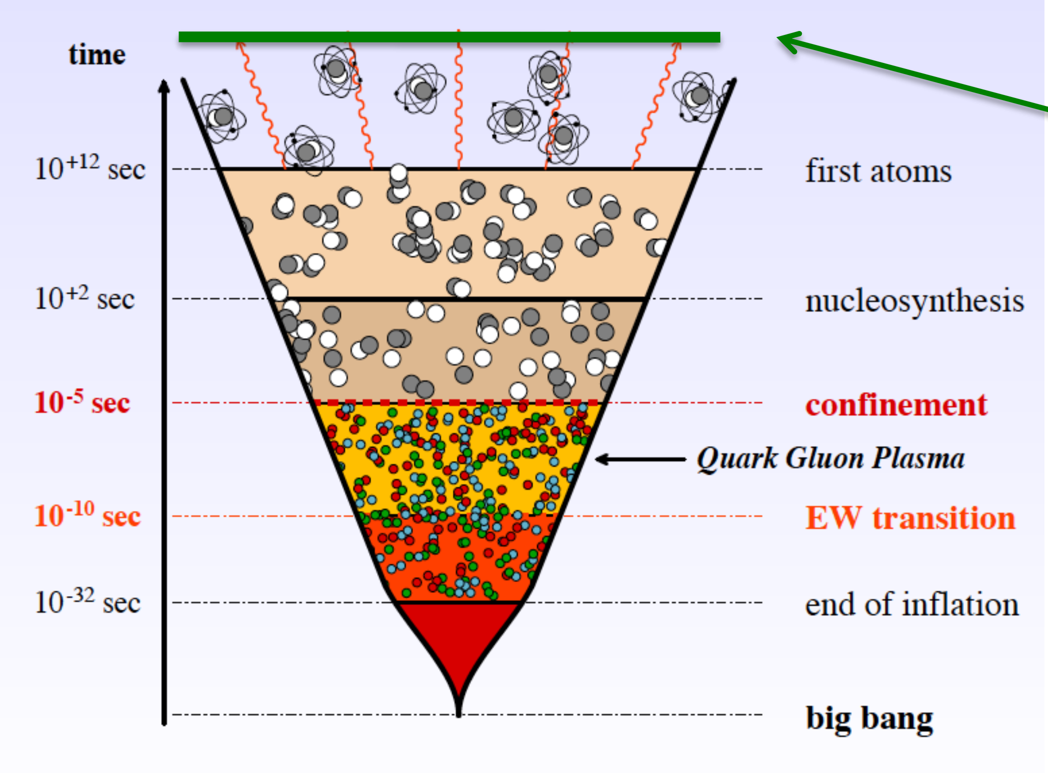
Studying hot QCD in the Laboratory: high energy collisions of heavy nuclei

Model calculation







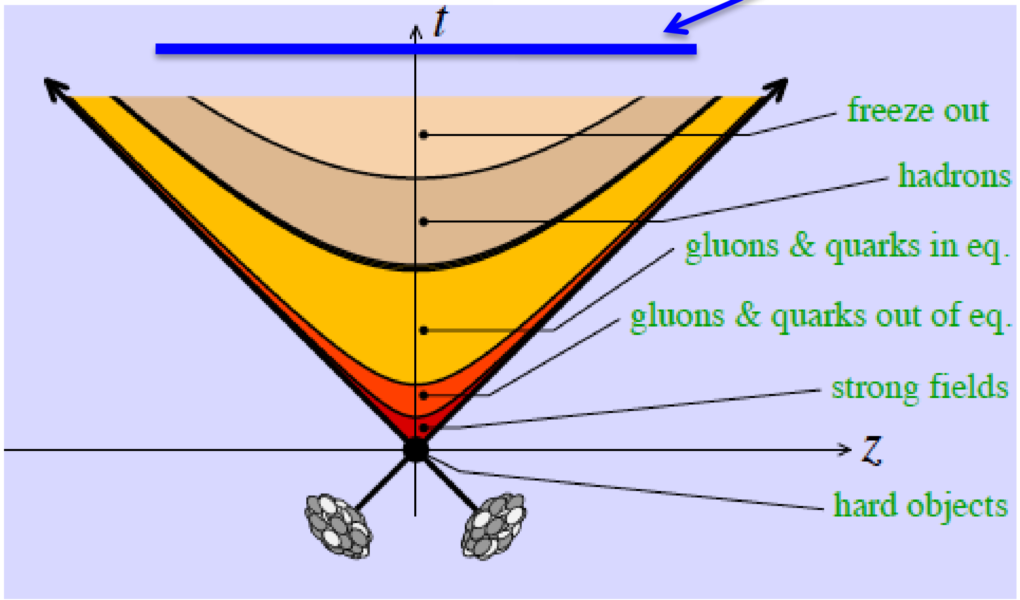


Measurements with telescopes

Evolution of the Early Universe

Measurements with colliders

Evolution of a Heavy Ion Collision



Experimental exploration of hot QCD Matter: what are the issues?

Intensive thermodynamic quantities (T, P, ε, μ,□) are only defined for systems in (quasi- or local-) equilibrium

- QCD Lattice calculates equilibrated matter (e.g. at fixed T)

But nuclear collisions are highly dynamic:

- "Fireball" starts blowing apart the instant it is generated
- Fireball lifetime ~ few fm/c
- no *a priori* reason that quasi-equlibration should be achieved on this time-scale

No *ab initio* theory to describe full dynamical evolution of the fireball

Experimental study of hot QCD Matter: Strategy

Experiment:

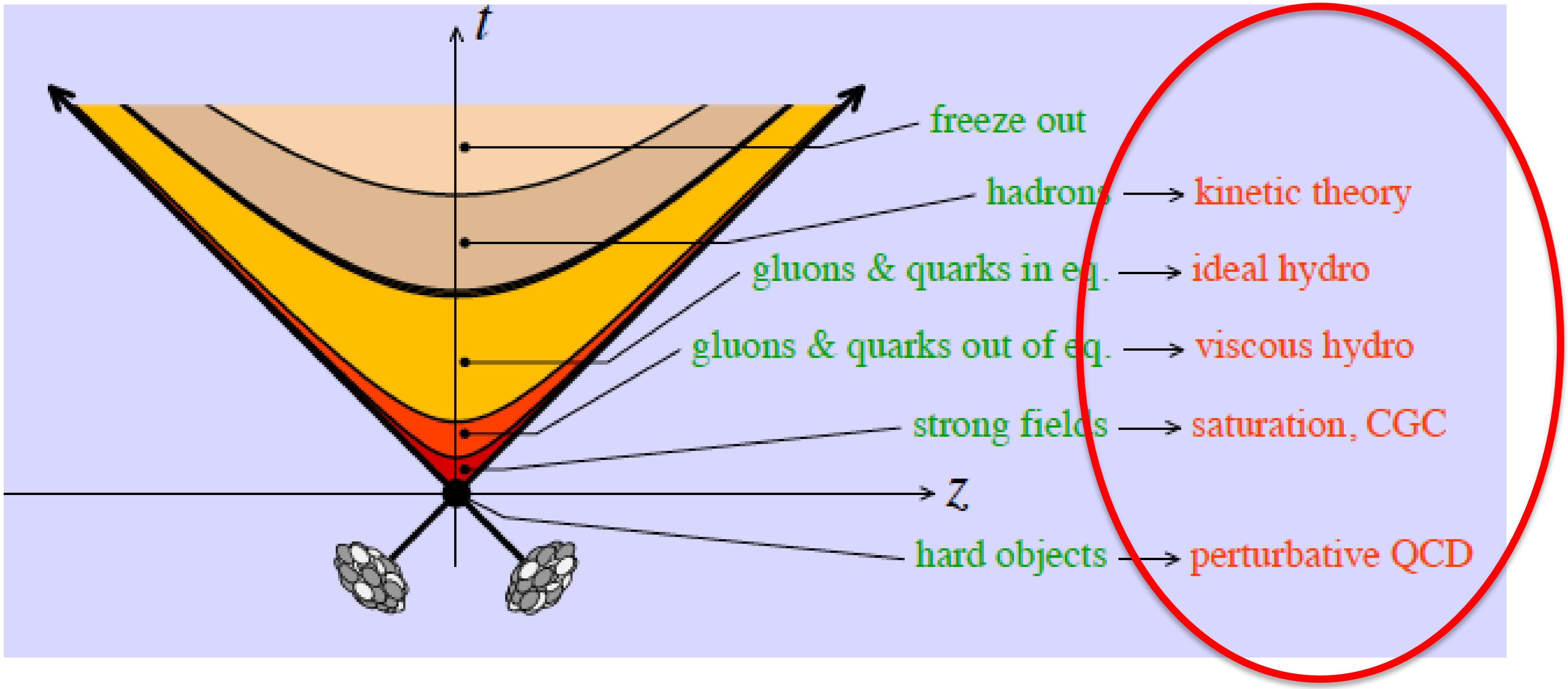
- No *ab initio* theory ➔ interpretation via comparison to reference systems:
  p+p, p/d+A, light ion collisions,…
- Vary system size: quantitative control over collision geometry
- Choose observables with close connection to theory and controlled modeling
- Over-determined measurements: multiple, systematically ~independent observables sensitive to the same underlying physics

Theory: models and effective theories for different stages of fireball evolution

- initial state: modified pdfs, saturation models,…
- hard probes: pQCD-based modeling
- collective expansion: viscous relativistic hydrodynamics
- hadronic phase: detailed Monte Carlos

Experiment+Theory:

- detailed comparison and mutual calibration
- evolution with $\sqrt{s}$: RHIC vs LHC


t
freeze out
hadrons
kinetic theory
gluons & quarks in eq.
ideal hydro
gluons & quarks out of eq.
viscous hydro
strong fields
saturation, CGC
z
hard objects
perturbative QCD

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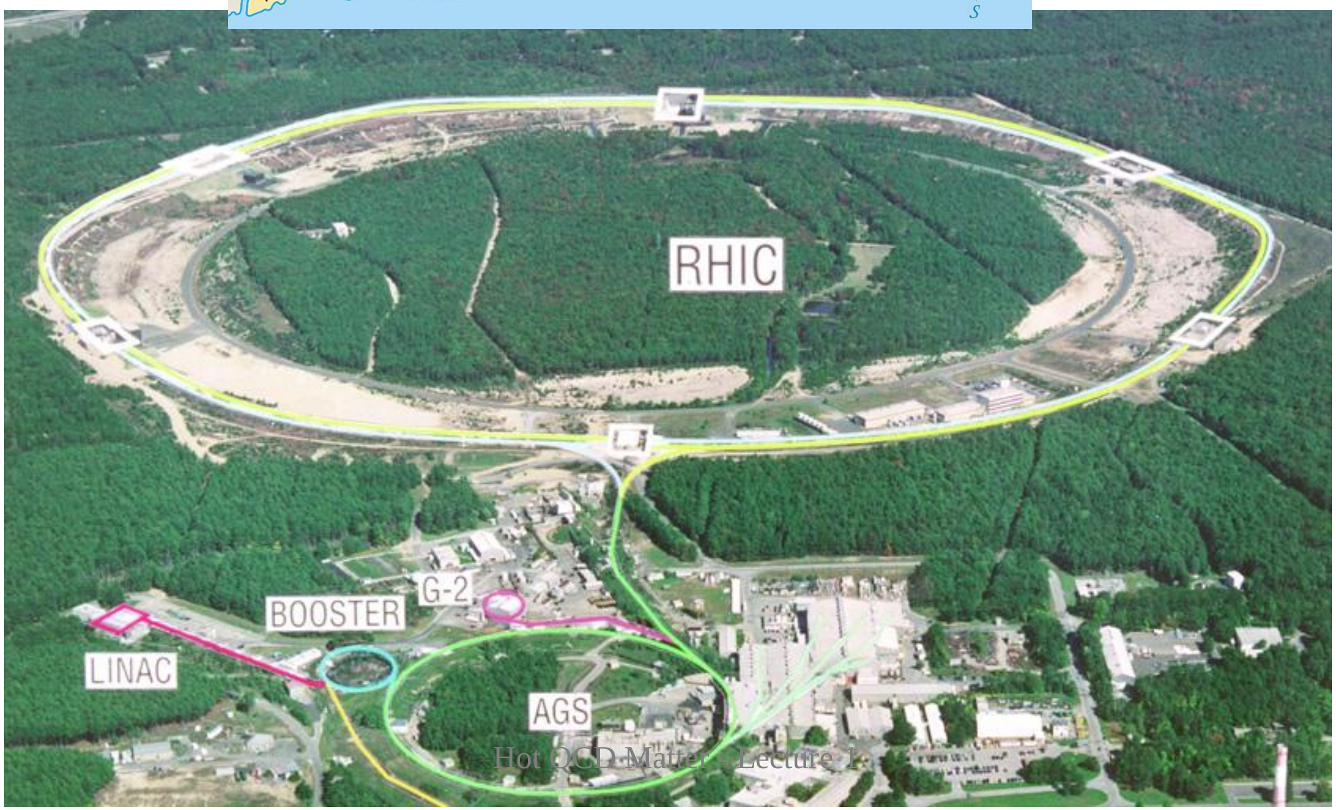
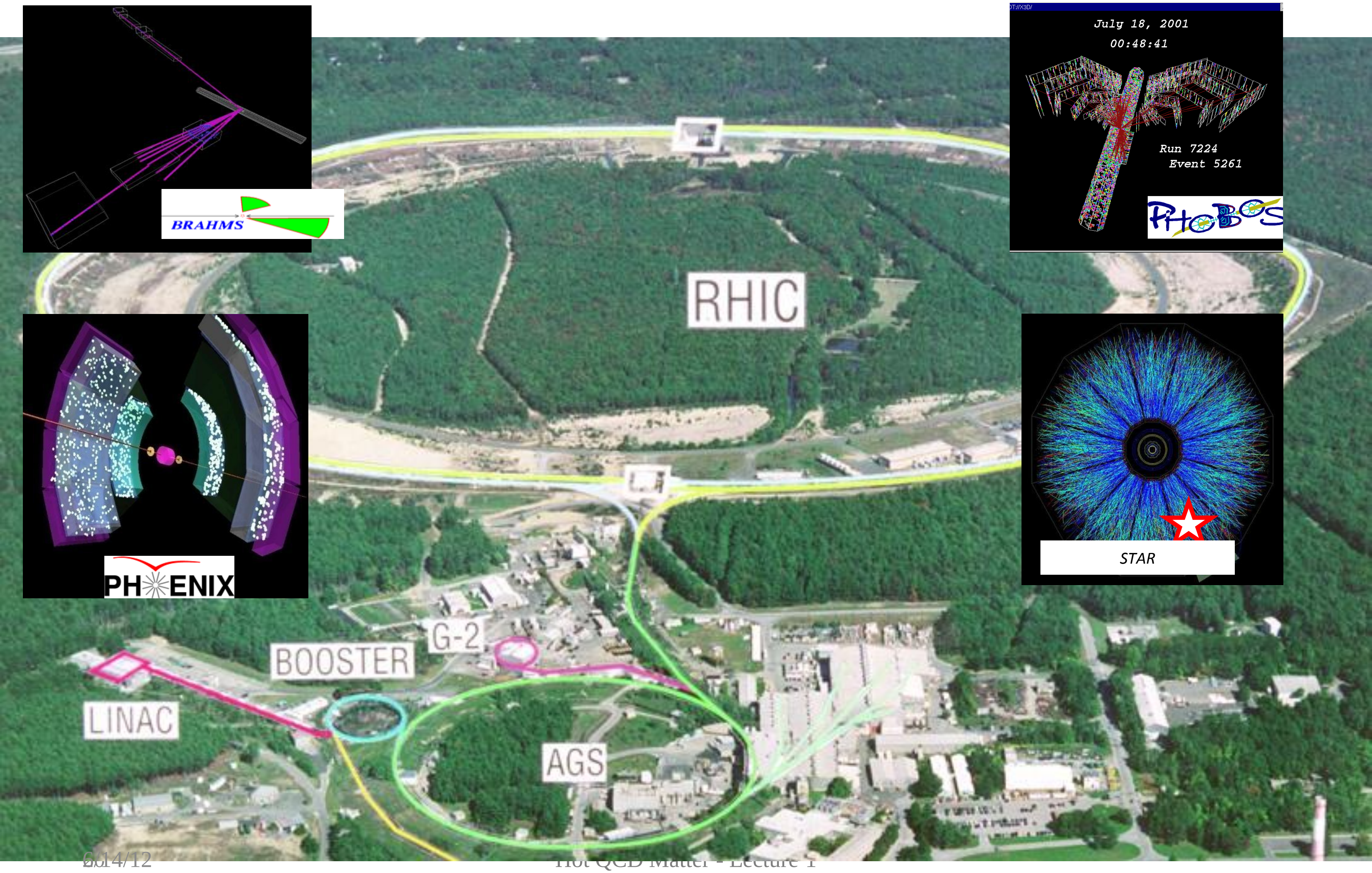
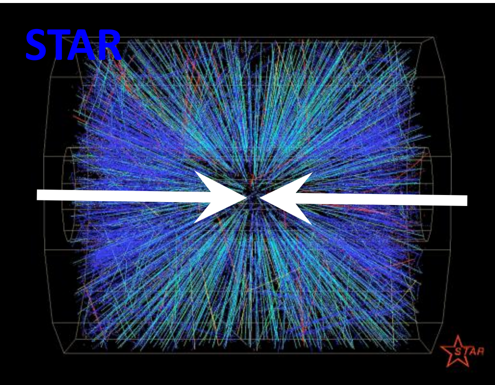
The Relativistic Heavy Ion Collider
Brookhaven National Laboratory



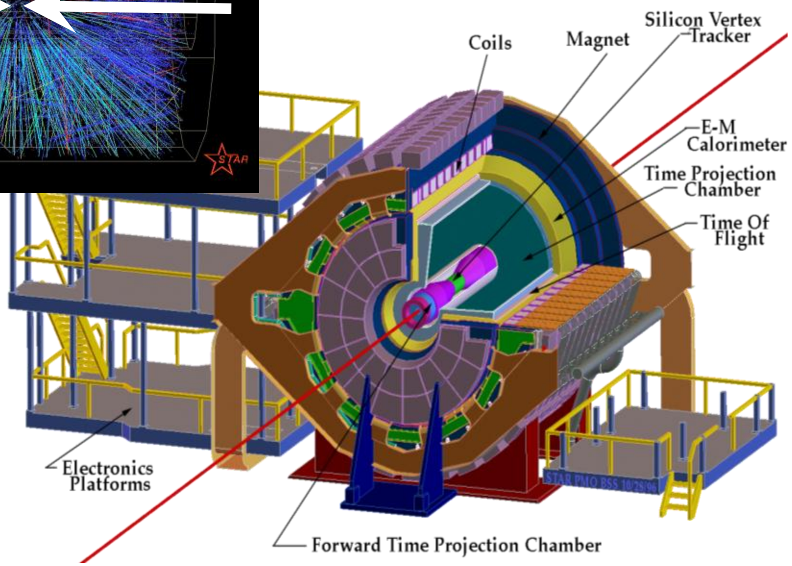
The Relativistic Heavy Ion Collider (BNL)



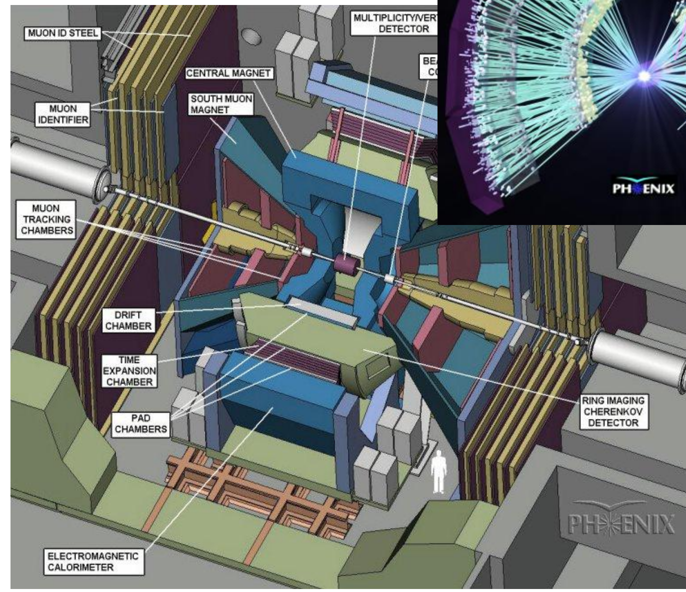
STAR and PHENIX at RHIC

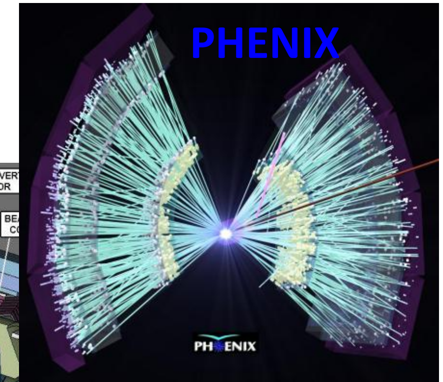


STAR



PHENIX





2π coverage, $-1 < \eta < 1$
for tracking + (coarse) EMCal

Partial coverage 2 x 0.5π, $-0.35 < h < 0.35$
Finely segmented calorimeter
+ forward muon arm

PID by TOF, dE/dx (STAR), RICH (PHENIX)

Optimised for acceptance
(correlations, jet-finding)

Optimised for high-pt π^0, γ, e, J/ψ
(EMCal, high trigger rates)

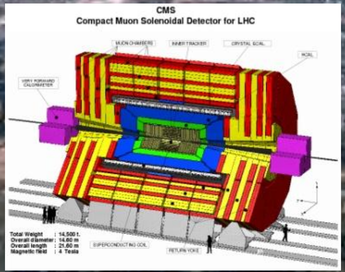
(PHOBOS, BRAHMS more specialised)

Large Hadron Collider at CERN

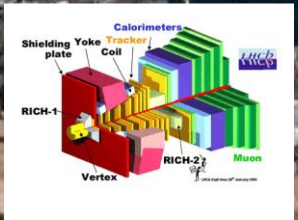
p+p at √s=7 (14) TeV

Pb+Pb at √s=2.76 (5.5) TeV

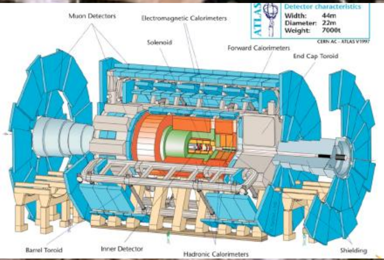
heavy ion running: 4 physics weeks/year



CMS

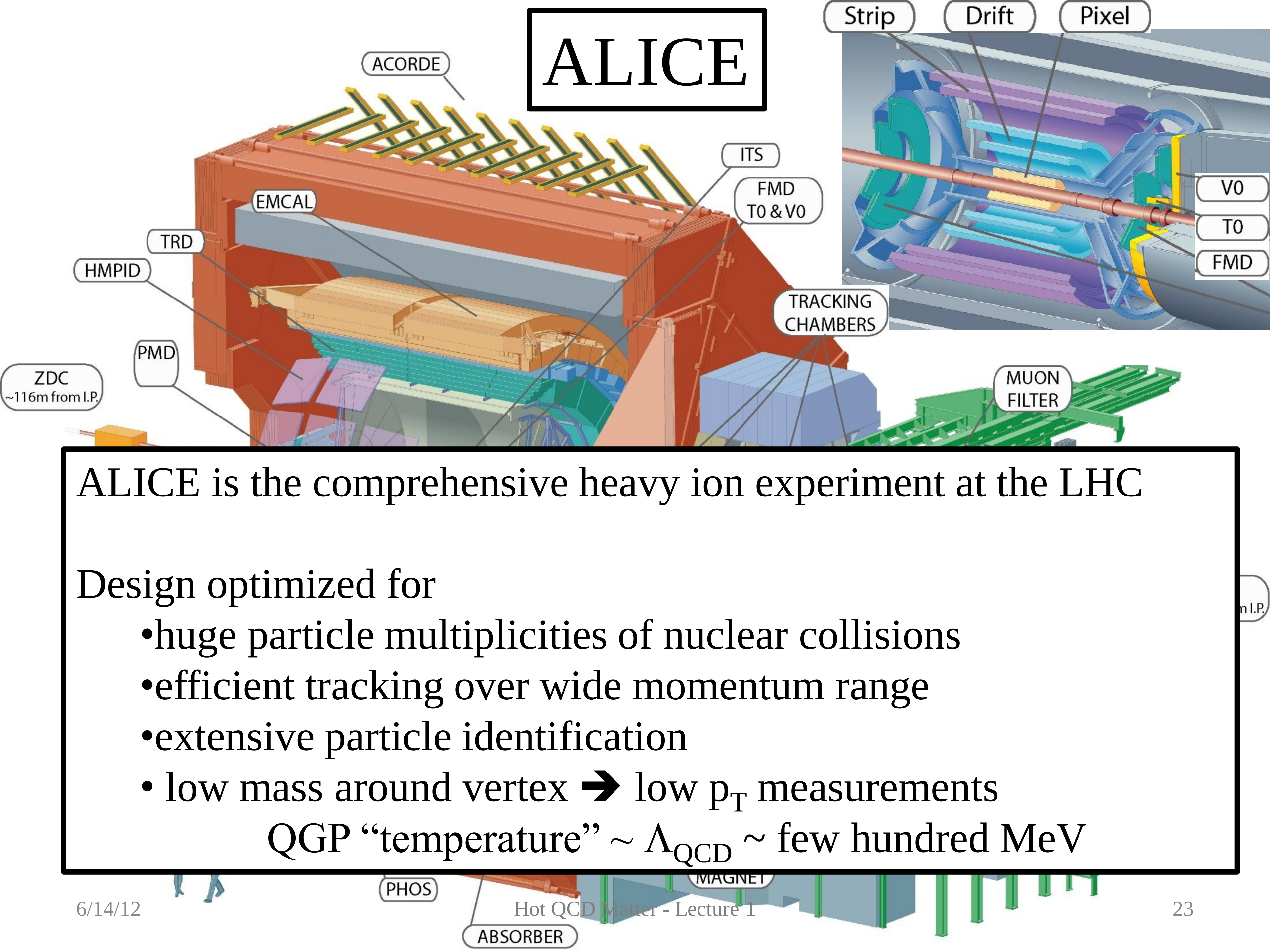


LHCb



ATLAS

ALICE



ALICE

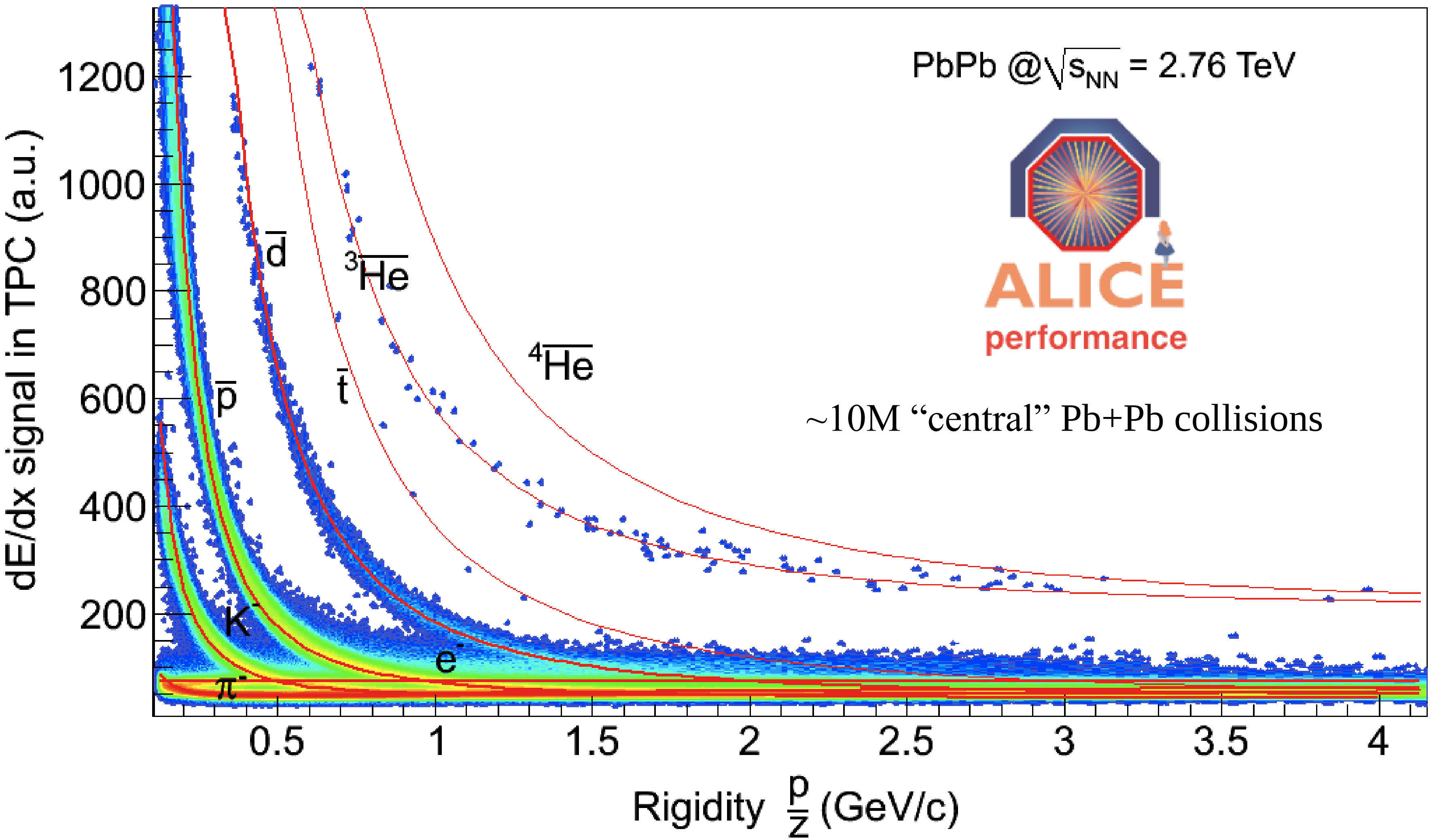
ALICE is the comprehensive heavy ion experiment at the LHC

Design optimized for

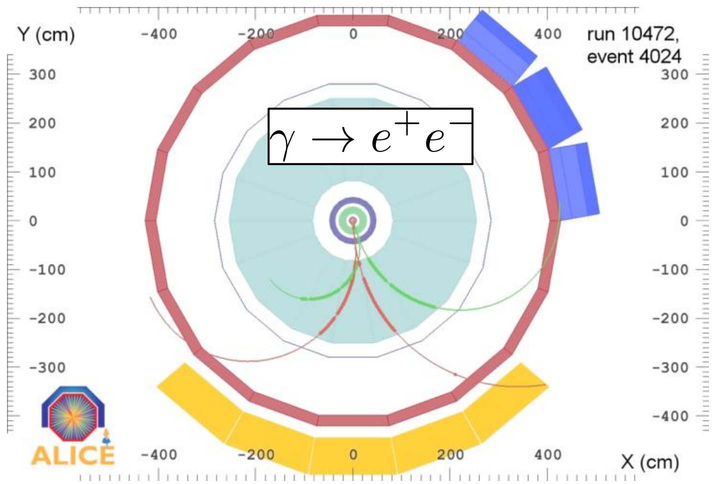
- huge particle multiplicities of nuclear collisions
- efficient tracking over wide momentum range
- extensive particle identification
- low mass around vertex ➔ low p_T measurements

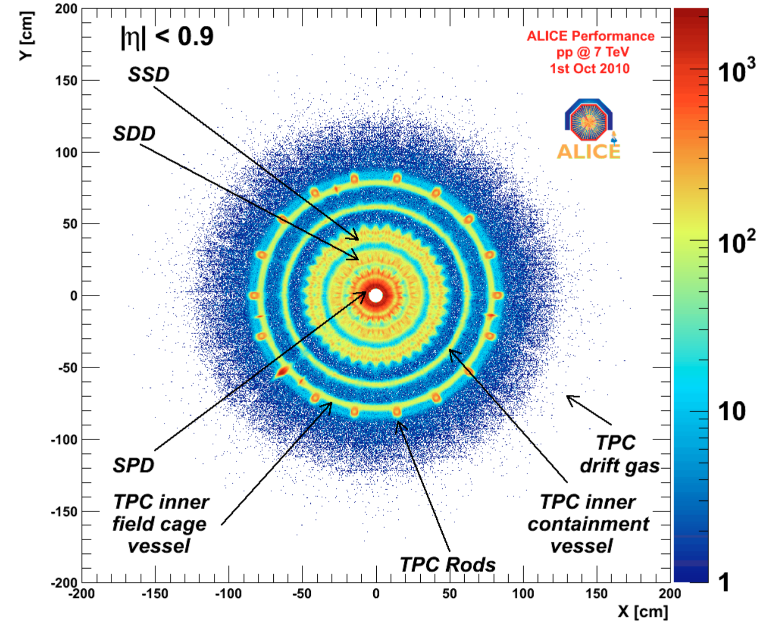
QGP "temperature" ~ Λ_{QCD} ~ few hundred MeV

Detector Performance
ALICE Particle ID (TPC dE/dx)

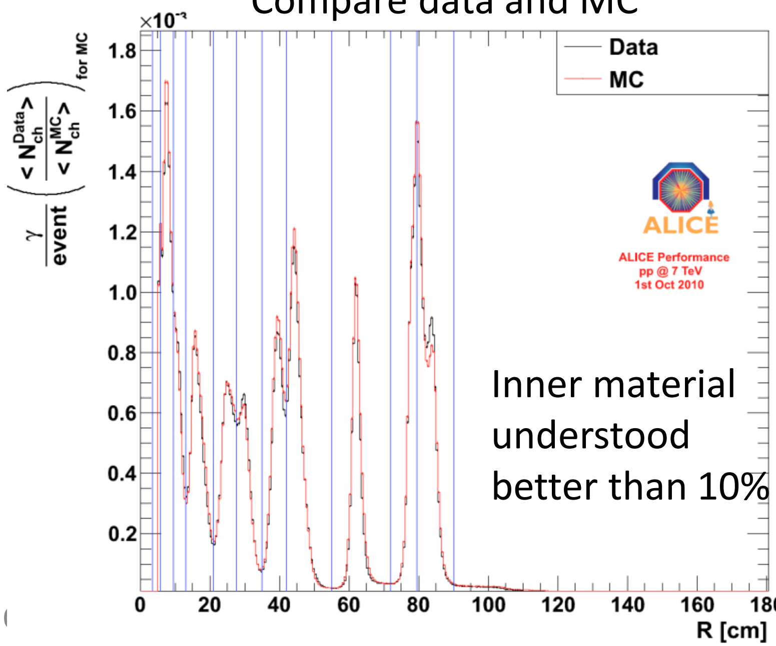


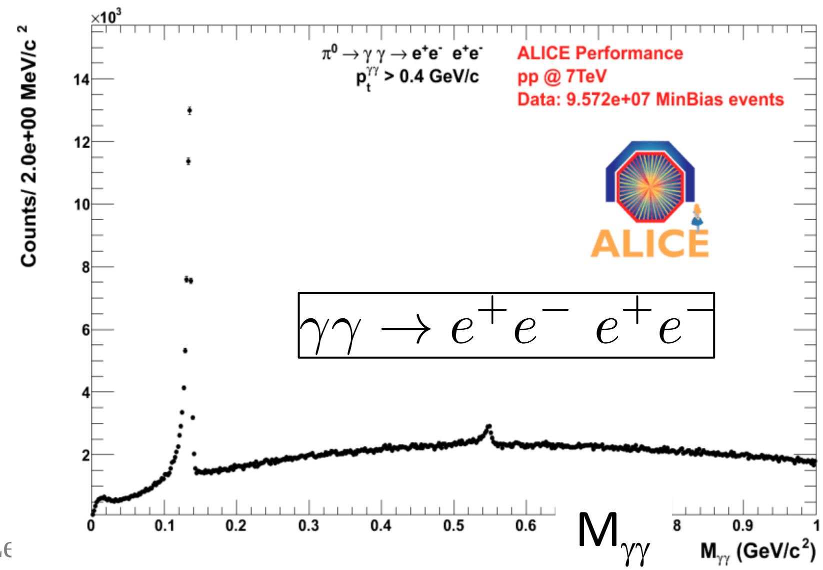
ALICE: Tomography via γ-conversions





Compare data and MC





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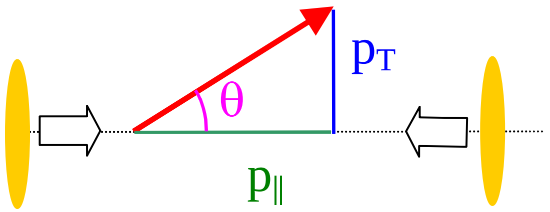
Kinematics for Inclusive Reactions

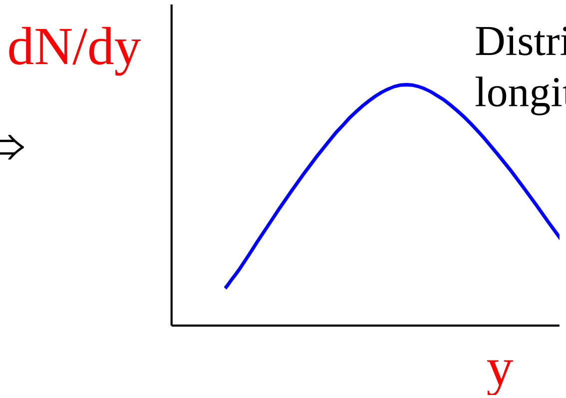
Rapidity

$$y = \frac{1}{2}\ln\left(\frac{E + p_{||}}{E - p_{||}}\right)$$



Rapidity is differentially boost-invariant

$$\delta y \sim \frac{\delta p_{||}}{E} \Rightarrow$$



Distribution invariant with longitudinal boost

Pseudo-rapidity

$$y \to \eta = -\ln[\tan(\theta/2)]$$

for m/p <<1

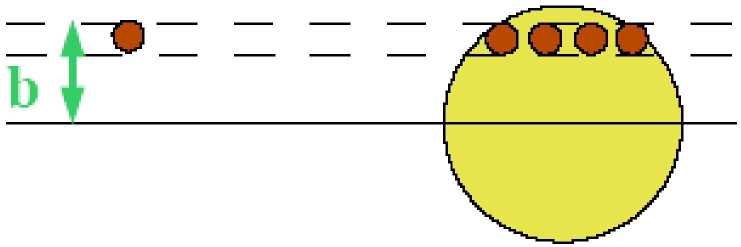
Invariant production cross section

$$E\frac{d^3\sigma}{d^3p} = \frac{d^2\sigma}{2\pi p_T dy dp_T}$$

Nuclear geometry and hard processes: Glauber theory

Glauber scaling for hard processes with large momentum transfer

- short coherence length ⇒ successive NN collisions independent
- p+A is incoherent superposition of N+N collisions



Normalized nuclear density r(*b*,*z*):

$$\int dz\, db\, \rho(b,z) = 1$$

Nuclear thickness function $$T_A(b) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} dz\, \rho(b,z)$$

Inelastic cross section for p+A collisions:

$$\sigma_{pA}^{inel} = \int d\vec{b} \left(1 - \left[1 - T_A(b)\, \sigma_{NN}^{inel}\right]^A\right)$$

$$\sigma_{pA}^{hard} \simeq A \cdot \sigma_{NN}^{hard} \int d\vec{b}\, T_A(b) = A \sigma_{NN}^{hard}$$

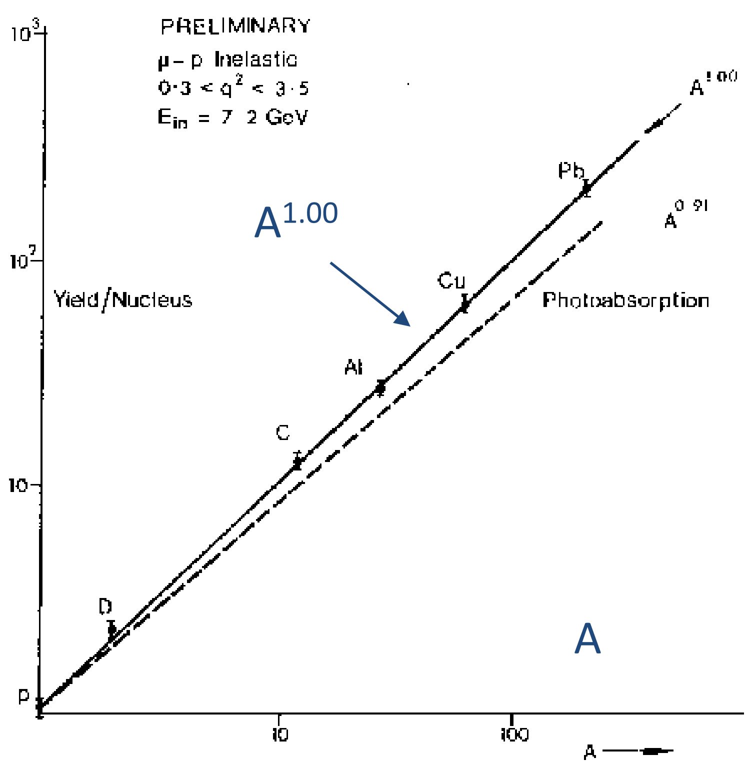
Experimental tests of Glauber scaling: hard cross sections in p(μ)+A collisions

Glauber scaling expectation:

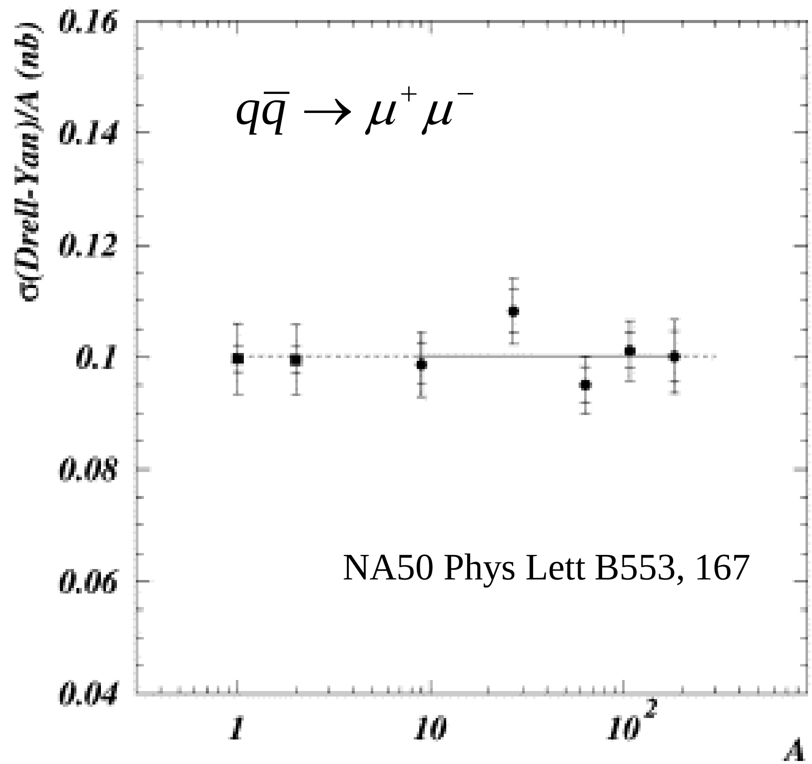
$$\sigma_{pA}^{hard} = A\sigma_{NN}^{hard}$$

σ_{inel} for 7 GeV muons on nuclei

M.May et al, Phys Rev Lett 35, 407 (1975)



$\sigma_{Drell-Yan}/A$ in p+A at SPS

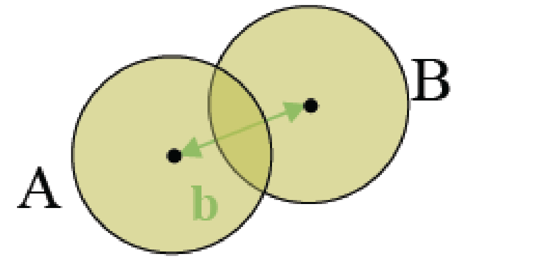


Hard cross sections in p+A scale as $A^{1.0}$

Glauber Theory for A+B Collisions

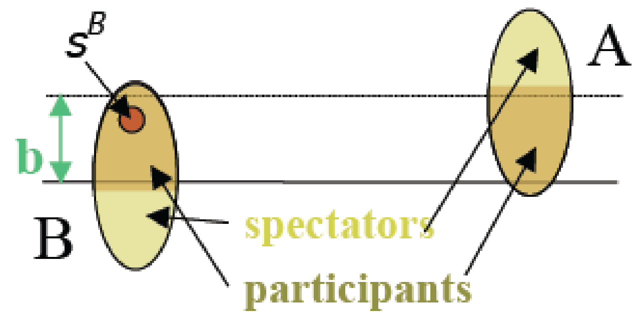
Nuclear overlap function:

$$T_{AB}\left(\vec{b}\right) = \int d\vec{s}\, T_A\left(\vec{s}\right) T_B\left(\vec{s} - \vec{b}\right)$$



Average number of binary NN collisions for B nucleon at coordinate $\mathbf{s_B}$:

$$N_{bin}^{nA}\left(\vec{b} - \vec{s}_B\right) = A \cdot T_A\left(\vec{b} - \vec{s}_B\right) \cdot \sigma_{nn}^{inel}$$



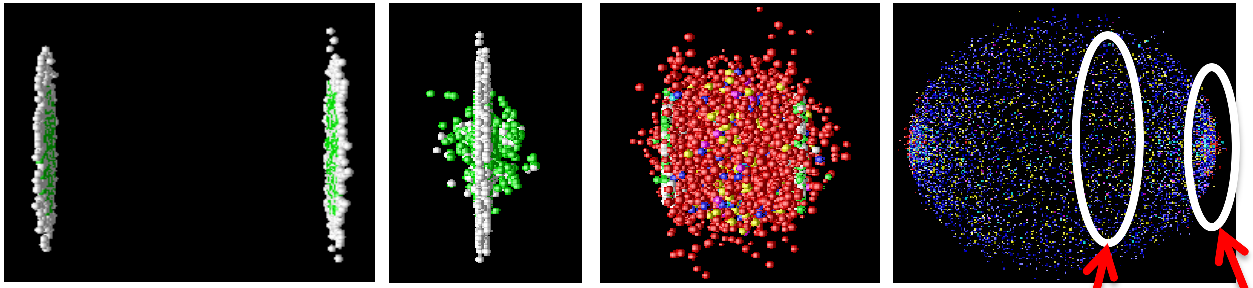
Average number of binary NN collisions for A+B collision with impact parameter b:

$$\begin{aligned} N_{bin}^{AB}(b) &= B \int d\vec{s}_B\, T_B\left(\vec{s}_B\right) \cdot N_{bin}^{nA}\left(\vec{b} - \vec{s}_B\right) \\ &= AB \cdot T_{AB}(b) \cdot \sigma_{nn}^{inel} \end{aligned}$$

Measuring collision geometry I

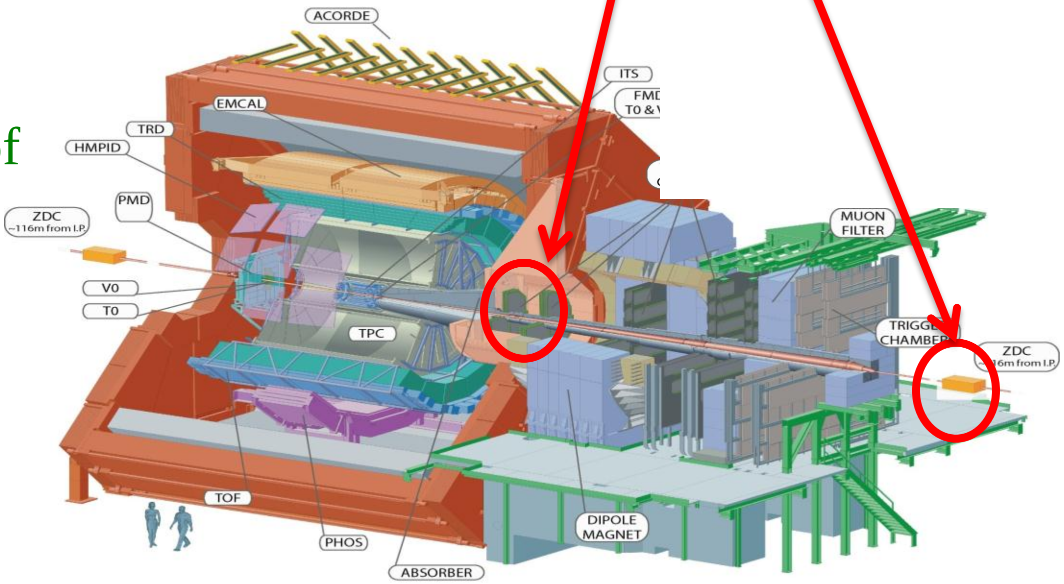
Nuclei are "macroscopic"

➔characterize collisions by impact parameter

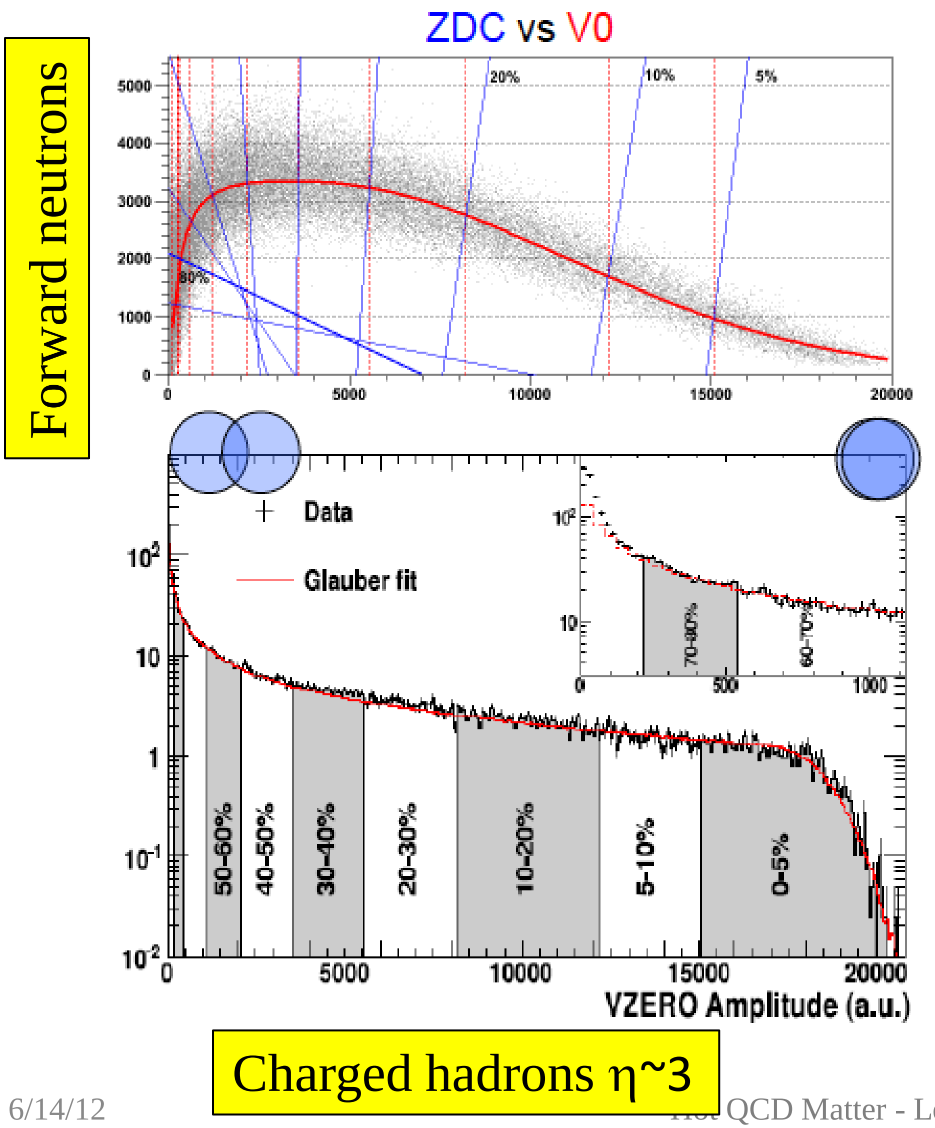


Correlate particle yields from ~causally disconnected parts of phase space

➔ correlation arises from common dependence on collision impact parameter



Measuring collision geometry II



- Order events by centrality metric
- Classify into percentile bins of "centrality"

HI jargon: "0-5% central"

Connect to Glauber theory via particle production model:

- N_{bin}: effective number of binary nucleon collisions (~5-10% precision)
- N_{part}: number of (inelastically scattered) "participating" nucleons

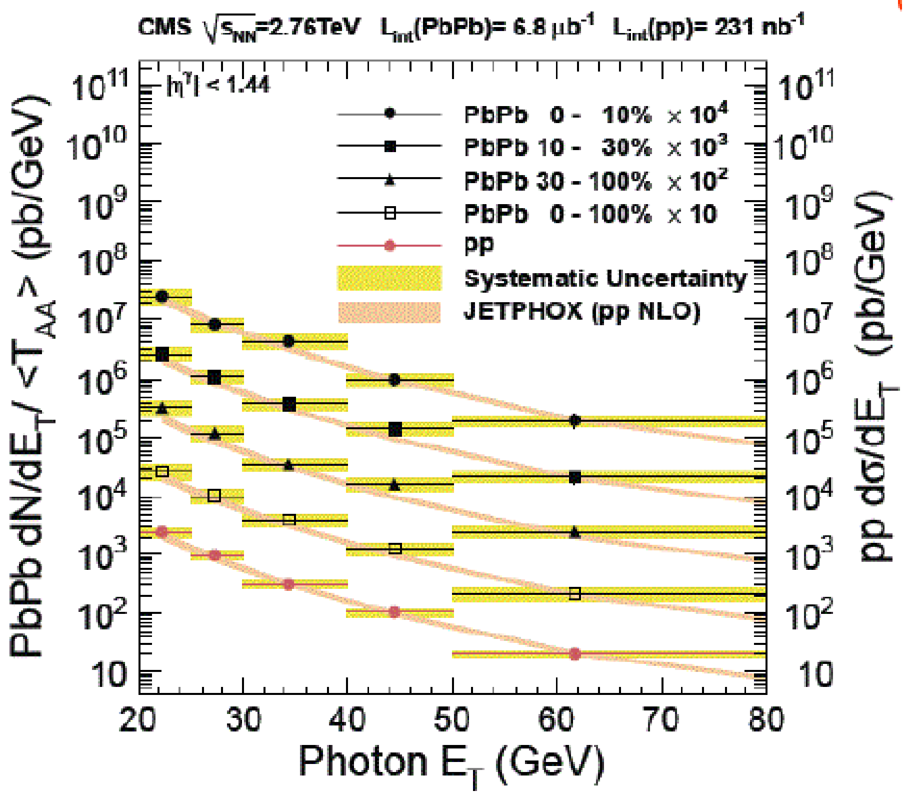
Scaling of cross sections using Glauber theory plays a central role in quantitative analysis of experimental measurements and connection to theory.

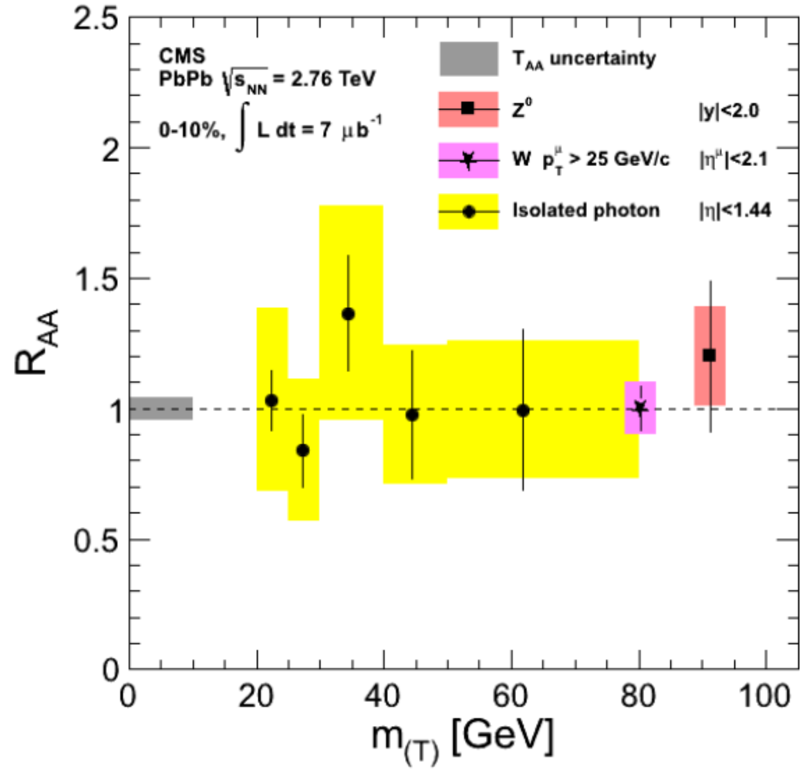
Let's test it experimentally in A+A collisions…

Glauber test at LHC:

Scaling of direct photon, Z, W yields in Pb+Pb vs p+p

$$R_{AA} = \frac{d\sigma_{AA}^{hard}/dp_T}{\langle T_{AA}\rangle \cdot d\sigma_{pp}^{hard}/dp_T}$$





EW boson yields all scale with N_{bin}: Glauber OK for hard processes

Summary of Lecture 1: what are the questions? (partial list)

What is the nature of QCD Matter at finite temperature?

- What is its phase structure?
- What is its equation of state?
- What are its effective degrees of freedom?
    - Is it a (trivial) gas of non-interacting quarks and gluons, or a fluid of interacting quasi-particles?
- What are its symmetries?
- Is it correctly described by Lattice QCD or does it require new approaches, and why?

What are the dynamics of QCD matter at finite temperature?

- What is the order of the (de-)confinement transition?
- How is chiral symmetry restored at high T, and how?
- Is there a QCD critical point?
- What are its transport properties?

Can QCD matter be related to other physical systems?

Can we study hot QCD matter experimentally?

References

QCD

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Heavy Ion Physics

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- Heavy Ion Collisions at the LHC – Last Call for Predictions, N. Armesto et al. (ed).; J. Phys. G35 054001 (2008), arXiv:0711.0974
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- The theory and phenomenology of perturbative QCD-based jet quenching, A. Majumder and M. van Leeuwen; arXiv:1002.2206
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Backup

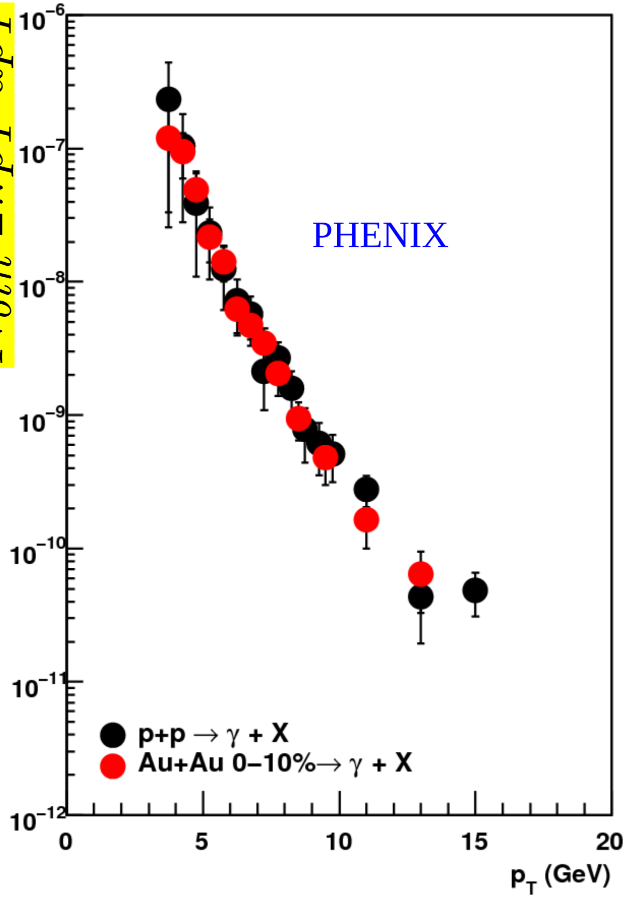
Glauber test at RHIC:

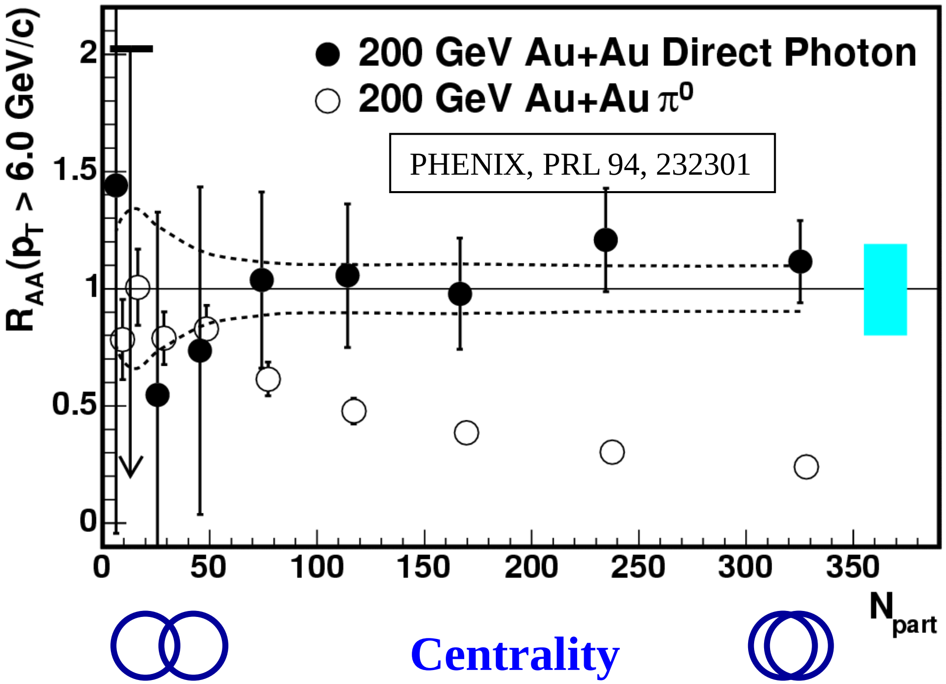
Scaling of direct photon yield in p+p vs. Au+Au

Direct γ: N_{bin}-scaled inclusive yield

$$R_{AA} = \frac{dN_{Au+Au}/dp_T}{N_{bin} \cdot dN_{p+p}/dp_T}$$

$$\frac{1}{N_{bin}} \frac{1}{2\pi p_T} \frac{dN}{dp_T}$$

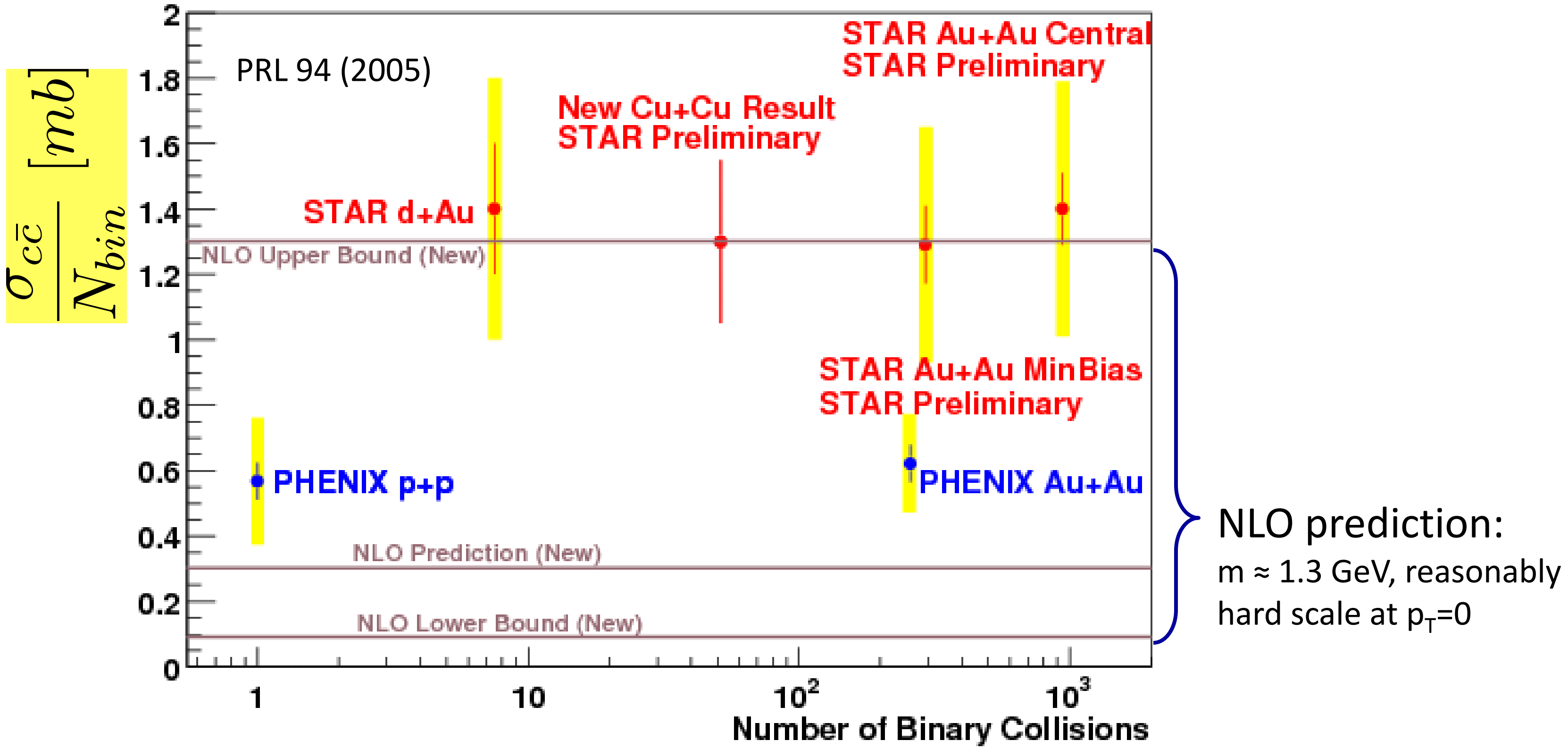




Direct γ yield scales with N_{bin}

Glauber test at RHIC:

Scaling of charm total production cross section



Total charm cross section scales with N_{bin} in A+A

(Sizable disagreement between STAR and PHENIX ……?)